

Week 2

Discussion – 3 February 2002

1. Is God fair?

- God is God – he judges by his standards
- All are guilty with no excuse
- God is revealed to all through conscience and nature
- He is fair and just
- Human 'best efforts' unworthy
- How can God be fair if he *forgives*?

2. What are our generation's idols?

- 'What you rely on'
- **Popularity** - popular idols, health, beauty
- **Created things** – materialism, status, worldly power, lottery tickets, financial security, pensions, shopping
- **Satisfaction of needs** – drugs, New Age, other religions, statues (some cultures), horoscopes, charms, witchcraft
- **Pleasure** – travel, experiences, Manchester United

3. How do we present sin? Is it adequate?

- God loves us as we are – not fire/brimstone/hell – truth is in middle
- Need to present sin nature versus acts
- Culturally relevant way – e.g. self-help/addiction/broken resolutions could be a route
- Good news / bad news
- More clear absolutes needed
- Public confession of sin can even be part of worship